

# OpenMP Loop Parallelism (2A)

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- Loop
-

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Please send corrections (or suggestions) to [youngwlim@hotmail.com](mailto:youngwlim@hotmail.com).

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# Parallel region

the **parallel** pragma :

creates parallelism in OpenMP codes

a **parallel region** :

- a block preceded by the **omp parallel** pragma
- executed by a newly created team of **threads**.

```
#pragma omp parallel
{
    // this is executed by a team of threads
}
```

this is an instance of the **SPMD** model:

all threads execute the same segment of code.

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-parallel.html>

# Master thread and a team of threads

Immediately preceding the **parallel block**, **one thread** will be executing the code.

In the **main** program this is the **initial thread**.

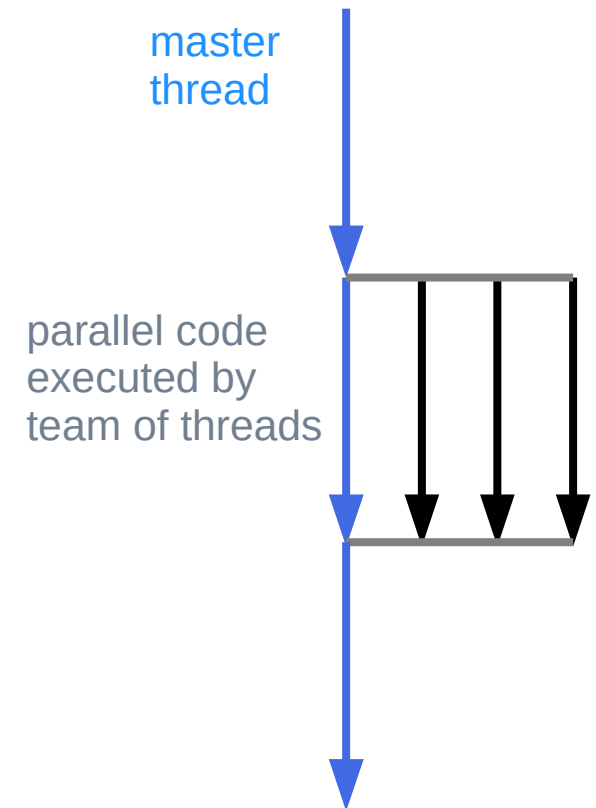
At the start of the block, a new team of **threads** is created, and the **thread** that was active before the block becomes the **master thread** of that team.

After the block, only the **master thread** is active.

Inside the block there is **team of threads**:

**each thread** in the **team**

- executes the body of the block,
- can access all variables of the surrounding environment.



# Shared / Private data and thread number

the **threads** that are forked are  
all **copies** of the **master thread** :

**shared data** :  
they have access to all that was computed so far;

each thread can also have **private data**,

each thread can identify themselves:  
**thread number**.

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-parallel.html>

# Thread number function

**omp\_get\_thread\_num()** :

to find out which thread you are  
and to execute work that is individual to that thread.

**omp\_get\_num\_threads()**

to find out the total number of threads.

these functions give a number  
relative to the current team

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-parallel.html>

# Distributing the work over the threads

In a **team** of **threads**,  
initially there will be replicated execution;

a **work sharing construct** divides  
available parallelism over the threads.

OpenMP uses **teams** of **threads**,  
and inside a **parallel region**  
the **work** is distributed over the **threads**  
with a **work sharing construct**.

**threads** can access **shared data**,  
and they have some **private data**.

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-parallel.html>

# Work Sharing Constructs

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**sections** Construct – structured block

**single** Construct – only one of the threads

**workshare** Construct – a separate units of work

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-parallel.html>



# sections construct

- a **non-iterative** worksharing construct
- contains a set of structured blocks
- each structured block
  - are distributed among **threads** in a team
  - executed once by one of the **threads** in a team
  - in the context of its **implicit task**.

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-parallel.html>

# single construct

- the specified **structured block** is executed
  - by only one of the **threads** in the team
  - in the context of its **implicit task**.
- The executing thread need not be the **master** thread
- the other threads in the team
  - do not execute the block
  - wait at an **implicit barrier** at the end of the **single** construct unless a **nowait** clause is specified.

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-parallel.html>

# workshare construct

- divides the execution of the enclosed **structured block** into separate **units of work**
- causes the **threads** of the team to **share the work**
- each **unit** is executed only once by one **thread**, in the context of its **implicit task**.

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-parallel.html>

# sections construct

```
#pragma omp sections [clause[ [,] clause] ... ] new-line
{
  [#pragma omp section new-line]
  structured-block
  [#pragma omp section new-line]
  structured-block]
  ...
}
```

where **clause** is one of the following:

**private**(list)  
**firstprivate**(list)  
**lastprivate**([ lastprivate-modifier:] list)  
**reduction**([reduction-modifier ,] reduction-identifier : list)  
**allocate**([allocator :] list)  
**nowait**

<https://www.openmp.org/spec-html/5.0/openmpsu37.html#x59-1010002.8.1>

# section construct

```
#pragma omp sections [clause[ [,] clause] ... ] new-line
{
  [#pragma omp section new-line]
    structured-block
  [#pragma omp section new-line]
    structured-block]
  ...
}
```

When program execution reaches a **omp sections** directive, program segments defined by the following **omp section** directive are distributed for parallel execution among available threads.

A barrier is implicitly defined at the end of the larger program region associated with the **omp sections** directive unless the `nowait` clause is specified.

<https://www.openmp.org/spec-html/5.0/openmpsu37.html#x59-1010002.8.1>

# single construct

```
#pragma omp single [clause[ [,] clause] ... ] new-line  
structured-block
```

where **clause** is one of the following:

```
private(list)  
firstprivate(list)  
copyprivate(list)  
allocate([allocator :] list)  
nowait
```

<https://www.openmp.org/spec-html/5.0/openmpsu38.html#x60-1090002.8.2>

# workshare construct

A worksharing directive (!) which allows parallelisation of Fortran 90 array operations, WHERE and FORALL constructs.

```
!$omp workshare  
    structured-block  
!$omp end workshare [nowait]
```

<https://www.openmp.org/spec-html/5.0/openmpsu39.html#x61-1170002.8.3>

# for construct

```
#pragma omp for [clause ...] newline
```

```
    schedule (type [,chunk])
```

```
    ordered
```

```
    private (list)
```

```
    firstprivate (list)
```

```
    lastprivate (list)
```

```
    shared (list)
```

```
    reduction (operator: list)
```

```
    collapse (n)
```

```
    nowait
```

```
for_loop
```

<https://hpc.llnl.gov/openmp-tutorial#WorkSharing>



# Clauses (1)

---

## **private** (list)

Declares the scope of the data variables in list to be **private** to each thread.

Data variables in list are separated by commas.

<https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/xl-c-aix/13.1.2?topic=processing-pragma-omp-section-pragma-omp-sections>

# Clauses (2)

## **firstprivate** (list)

Declares the scope of the data variables in list to be **private** to each thread.

Each new private object is initialized as if there was an implied declaration within the statement block. Data variables in list are separated by commas.

## **lastprivate** (list)

Declares the scope of the data variables in list to be **private** to each thread.

The final value of each variable in list, if assigned, will be the value assigned to that variable in the last section. Variables not assigned a value will have an indeterminate value. Data variables in list are separated by commas.

<https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/xl-c-aix/13.1.2?topic=processing-pragma-omp-section-pragma-omp-sections>

# Clauses (3)

## **copyprivate** (list)

broadcasts the values of variables specified in list from one **thread** of the **team** to other **threads**

This occurs after the execution of the structured block associated with the **omp single** directive, and before any of the threads leave the **barrier** at the end of the construct.

For all other **threads** in the team, each variable in the list becomes defined with the value of the corresponding variable in the **thread** that executed the structured block.

Data variables in list are separated by commas.

<https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/xl-c-aix/13.1.2?topic=processing-pragma-omp-section-pragma-omp-sections>

# Clauses (4)

**reduction** (operator: list)

Performs a **reduction** on all **scalar variables** in list using the specified **operator**.

Reduction variables in list are separated by commas.

A **private copy** of each variable in list is created for each thread.

At the end of the statement block, the **final** values of all **private copies** of the reduction variable are combined in a manner appropriate to the **operator**, and the **result** is placed back in the **original value** of the **shared reduction variable**.

<https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/xl-c-aix/13.1.2?topic=processing-pragma-omp-section-pragma-omp-sections>

# Clauses (5)

**reduction** (operator: list)

For example, when the **max operator** is specified, the original reduction variable value combines with the final **values** of the **private copies** by using the following expression:

```
original_reduction_variable =  
    original_reduction_variable < private_copy  
    ? private_copy  
    : original_reduction_variable;
```

<https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/xl-c-aix/13.1.2?topic=processing-pragma-omp-section-pragma-omp-sections>

# Clauses (6)

## nowait

Use this clause to avoid the **implied barrier** at the end of the **sections** directive.

This is useful if you have multiple independent work-sharing sections within a given parallel region.

Only one **nowait** clause can appear on a given **sections** directive.

<https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/xl-c-aix/13.1.2?topic=processing-pragma-omp-section-pragma-omp-sections>

# Clauses (7)

## **collapse** (n)

allows you to parallelize **multiple loops** in a **nest** without introducing **nested parallelism**.

Only one **collapse** clause is allowed on a worksharing **for** or **parallel for** pragma.

**n** : the number of nested loops to be parallelized

the specified **number of loops** must be present lexically.  
that is, none of the loops can be in a called subroutine.

<https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/xl-c-aix/13.1.2?topic=processing-pragma-omp-section-pragma-omp-sections>

# Clauses (8)

The loops must form a rectangular iteration space and the **bounds** and **stride** of each loop must be invariant over all the loops.

If the **loop indices** are of different size, the **index** with the largest size will be used for the **collapsed loop**.

The **loops** must be perfectly nested; that is, there is no intervening code nor any OpenMP **pragma** between the loops which are collapsed.

<https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/xl-c-aix/13.1.2?topic=processing-pragma-omp-section-pragma-omp-sections>



# Clauses (9)

The associated **do-loops** must be **structured blocks**.  
Their execution must not be terminated by an **break** statement.

If **multiple loops** are associated to the **loop** construct,  
only an iteration of the innermost associated loop  
may be curtailed by a **continue** statement.

If **multiple loops** are associated to the **loop** construct,  
there must be no branches to any of the loop **termination** statements  
except for the innermost associated loop.

<https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/xl-c-aix/13.1.2?topic=processing-pragma-omp-section-pragma-omp-sections>

# Collapse example (1)

The **collapse** clause is used to convert a prefect nested loop into a single loop then parallelize it.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <omp.h>

int main(void)
{
    #pragma omp parallel for
    for (int i = 0; i < 4; i++)
    {
        for (int j = 0; j < 5; j++)
        {
            printf("Thread number is %d\n", omp_get_thread_num());
        }
    }

    return 0;
}
```

```
# gcc -fopenmp parallel.c
# ./a.out
Thread number is 0
Thread number is 0
Thread number is 0
Thread number is 0
Thread number is 0
Thread number is 3
Thread number is 3
Thread number is 3
Thread number is 3
Thread number is 3
Thread number is 1
Thread number is 1
Thread number is 1
Thread number is 1
Thread number is 1
Thread number is 2
Thread number is 2
Thread number is 2
Thread number is 2
Thread number is 2
```

<https://nanxiao.gitbooks.io/openmp-little-book/content/posts/collapse-clause.html?q=>

# Collapse example (2)

Every iteration of outer loop will be dispatched to one thread to run:

```
#pragma omp parallel for
```

```
for (int i = 0; i < 4; i++)  
{  
    for (int j = 0; j < 5; j++)  
    {  
        printf("Thread number is %d\n", omp_get_thread_num());  
    }  
}
```

Each thread will execute the inner loop sequentially:

So there are only 4 threads in active state actually.

<https://nanxiao.gitbooks.io/openmp-little-book/content/posts/collapse-clause.html?q=>

# Collapse example (3)

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <omp.h>

int main(void)
{
    #pragma omp parallel for collapse(2)
    for (int i = 0; i < 4; i++)
    {
        for (int j = 0; j < 5; j++)
        {
            printf("Thread number is %d\n", omp_get_thread_num());
        }
    }

    return 0;
}
```

```
# gcc -fopenmp parallel.c
# ./a.out
Thread number is 0
Thread number is 2
Thread number is 18
Thread number is 16
Thread number is 6
Thread number is 8
Thread number is 7
Thread number is 10
Thread number is 14
Thread number is 12
Thread number is 13
Thread number is 17
Thread number is 15
Thread number is 9
Thread number is 11
Thread number is 19
Thread number is 4
Thread number is 3
Thread number is 5
Thread number is 1
```

<https://nanxiao.gitbooks.io/openmp-little-book/content/posts/collapse-clause.html?q=>

# Collapse example (4)

This time we can see 20 threads are utilized.

The integer argument of **collapse** (i.e., 2 in this example) identifies how many loops to be parallelized, and counted from outer side to inner side

Please be aware that **collapse(1)** and no collapse take the same effect for loop parallelism

<https://nanxiao.gitbooks.io/openmp-little-book/content/posts/collapse-clause.html?q=>

# Clauses (10)

Use the OpenMP **collapse** clause  
to increase the total number of iterations  
that will be partitioned across the available number of OMP **threads**  
by reducing the granularity of work to be done by each **thread**.

If the amount of work to be done by each thread  
is non-trivial (after collapsing is applied),  
this may improve the parallel **scalability** of the OMP application.

<https://software.intel.com/content/www/us/en/develop/articles/openmp-loop-collapse-directive.html>

# Clauses (11)

You can improve performance by avoiding use of the **collapsed-loop indices** (if possible) inside the collapse loop-nest

since the compiler has to recreate them from the **collapsed loop-indices** using **divide/mod** operations AND

the uses are complicated enough that they don't get dead-code-eliminated as part of compiler optimizations

<https://software.intel.com/content/www/us/en/develop/articles/openmp-loop-collapse-directive.html>

# Clauses (12)

```
#pragma omp parallel for collapse(2)
for (i = 0; i < imax; i++) {
    for (j = 0; j < jmax; j++) a[j + jmax*i] = 1.;
}
```

Modified example for better performance:

```
#pragma omp parallel for collapse(2)
for (i = 0; i < imax; i++) {
    for (j = 0; j < jmax; j++) a[k++] = 1.;
}
```

<https://software.intel.com/content/www/us/en/develop/articles/openmp-loop-collapse-directive.html>



# Clauses (13)

## Ordered

During execution of an iteration of a loop or a loop nest within a loop region, the executing thread must not execute more than one ordered region which binds to the same loop region. As a consequence, if multiple loops are associated to the loop construct by a collapse clause, the ordered construct has to be located inside all associated loops.

Specify this clause if an ordered construct is present within the dynamic extent of the omp for directive.

<https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/xl-c-aix/13.1.2?topic=processing-pragma-omp-section-pragma-omp-sections>

# Clauses (14)

## **schedule** (type)

Specifies how iterations of the for loop are divided among available threads.

Acceptable values for type are:

### **auto**

With auto, scheduling is delegated to the compiler and runtime system. The compiler and runtime system can choose any possible mapping of iterations to threads (including all possible valid schedules) and these may be different in different loops.

### **dynamic**

Iterations of a loop are divided into chunks of size  $\text{ceiling}(\text{number\_of\_iterations}/\text{number\_of\_threads})$ .

Chunks are dynamically assigned to active threads on a "first-come, first-do" basis until all work has been assigned.

### **dynamic,n**

As above, except chunks are set to size n. n must be an integral assignment expression of value 1 or greater.

<https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/xl-c-aix/13.1.2?topic=processing-pragma-omp-section-pragma-omp-sections>

# Clauses (15)

## **guided**

Chunks are made progressively smaller until the default minimum chunk size is reached. The first chunk is of size  $\text{ceiling}(\text{number\_of\_iterations}/\text{number\_of\_threads})$ . Remaining chunks are of size  $\text{ceiling}(\text{number\_of\_iterations\_left}/\text{number\_of\_threads})$ .

The minimum chunk size is 1.

Chunks are assigned to active threads on a "first-come, first-do" basis until all work has been assigned.

## **guided,n**

As above, except the minimum chunk size is set to  $n$ ;  $n$  must be an integral assignment expression of value 1 or greater.

<https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/xl-c-aix/13.1.2?topic=processing-pragma-omp-section-pragma-omp-sections>

# Clauses (16)

## **runtime**

Scheduling policy is determined at run time. Use the OMP\_SCHEDULE environment variable to set the scheduling type and chunk size.

## **static**

Iterations of a loop are divided into chunks of size  $\text{ceiling}(\text{number\_of\_iterations}/\text{number\_of\_threads})$ . Each thread is assigned a separate chunk.

This scheduling policy is also known as block scheduling.

## **static,n**

Iterations of a loop are divided into chunks of size  $n$ . Each chunk is assigned to a thread in round-robin fashion.

$n$  must be an integral assignment expression of value 1 or greater.

This scheduling policy is also known as block cyclic scheduling.

<https://www.ibm.com/docs/en/xl-c-aix/13.1.2?topic=processing-pragma-omp-section-pragma-omp-sections>

# Parallel region

An important difference between **OpenMP** and **MPI** is that parallelism in **OpenMP** is **dynamically activated** by a **thread spawning** a **team** of **threads**.

Furthermore, the **number** of **threads** used can differ between **parallel regions**, and **threads** can create threads recursively.

This is known as **dynamic mode** .

By contrast, in an **MPI** program the **number** of running processes is (mostly) constant throughout the run, and determined by factors external to the program.

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-parallel.html>

# Loop parallelism

OpenMP parallel loops are an example of OpenMP 'worksharing' constructs

take an amount of **work** and **distribute** it over the available **threads** in a parallel region.

The parallel execution of a loop can be handled a number of different ways.

For instance, you can create a parallel region around the loop, and adjust the **loop bounds**:

```
#pragma omp parallel
{
    int threadnum = omp_get_thread_num(),
        numthreads = omp_get_num_threads();

    int low = N*threadnum/numthreads,
        high = N*(threadnum+1)/numthreads;

    for (i=low; i<high; i++)
        // do something with i
}
```

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-loop.html>

# Loop parallelism

use the **parallel for** pragma:

```
#pragma omp parallel
#pragma omp for
for (i=0; i<N; i++) {
    // do something with i
}
```

you don't have to calculate  
the **loop bounds** for the threads yourself,

but you can also tell OpenMP  
to assign the loop iterations  
according to different **schedules**

```
#pragma omp parallel
{
    code1();
    #pragma omp for
    for (i=1; i<=4*N; i++) {
        code2();
    }
    code3();
}
```

The code before and after the loop is  
executed identically in each thread; t

he loop iterations are spread  
over the four threads.

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-loop.html>

# Loop parallelism

`#pragma omp parallel` spawns a group of threads, while `#pragma omp for` divides loop iterations between the spawned threads. You can do both things at once with the fused `#pragma omp parallel for` directive.

`#pragma omp for` only delegates portions of the loop for different threads in the current team. A team is the group of threads executing the program. At program start, the team consists only of a single member: the master thread that runs the program.

To create a new team of threads, you need to specify the `parallel` keyword. It can be specified in the surrounding context:

```
#pragma omp parallel
{
    #pragma omp for
    for(int n = 0; n < 10; ++n)
        printf(" %d", n);
}
```

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/1448318/omp-parallel-vs-omp-parallel-for>



# Loop parallelism

The difference between parallel, parallel for and for is as follows:

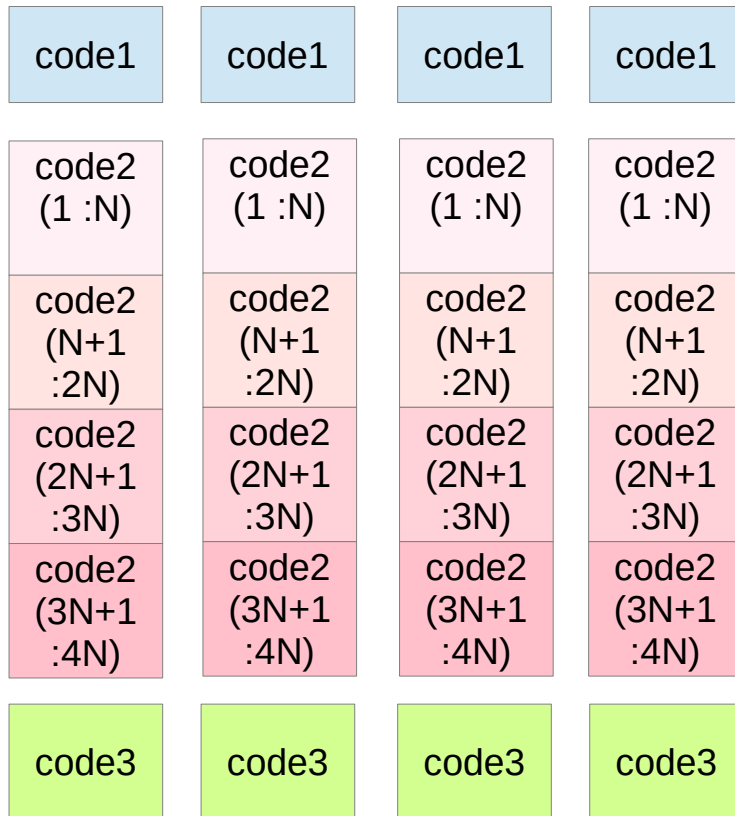
A team is the group of threads that execute currently. At the program beginning, the team consists of a single thread. A parallel construct splits the current thread into a new team of threads for the duration of the next block/statement, after which the team merges back into one. for divides the work of the for-loop among the threads of the current team.

It does not create threads, it only divides the work amongst the threads of the currently executing team. parallel for is a shorthand for two commands at once: parallel and for. Parallel creates a new team, and for splits that team to handle different portions of the loop. If your program never contains a parallel construct, there is never more than one thread; the master thread that starts the program and runs it, as in non-threading programs.

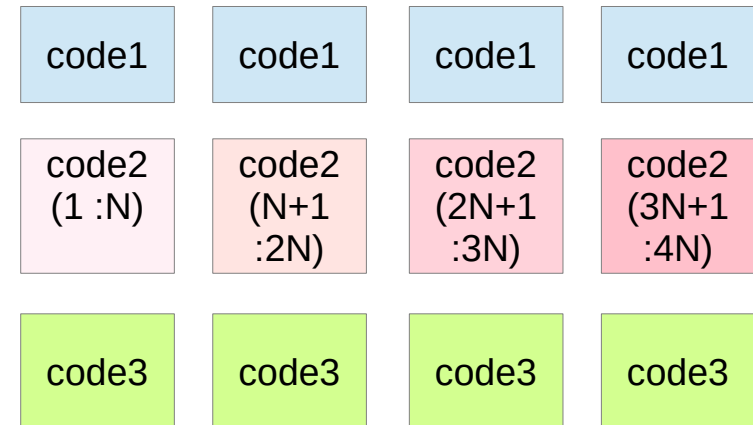
<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/1448318/omp-parallel-vs-omp-parallel-for>

# Loop parallelism

Without `#pragma omp for`



With `#pragma omp for`



<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-loop.html>

# Loop parallelism

Note that the **parallel do** and **parallel for** pragmas do not create a team of threads: they take the team of threads that is active, and divide the loop iterations over them.

This means that the **omp for** or **omp do** directive needs to be inside a **parallel region**. It is also possible to have a combined **omp parallel for** or **omp parallel do** directive.

If your parallel region only contains a loop, you can combine the pragmas for the parallel region and distribution of the loop iterations:

```
#pragma omp parallel for  
for (i=0; .....
```

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-loop.html>

# Loop parallelism

Note that the **parallel do** and **parallel for** pragmas do not create a team of threads: they take the team of threads that is active, and divide the loop iterations over them.

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```
#pragma omp parallel for  
for (i=0; .....
```

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-loop.html>

# Loop Schedules (1)

more **iterations** in a loop than **threads**  
several ways to assign loop **iterations** to the **threads**  
OpenMP lets you specify this with the **schedule clause**.

**#pragma omp for schedule(...)**

## Static schedules

the **iterations** are assigned purely  
based on the number of iterations  
and the number of threads  
(and the **chunk parameter**; see later).

## Dynamic schedules

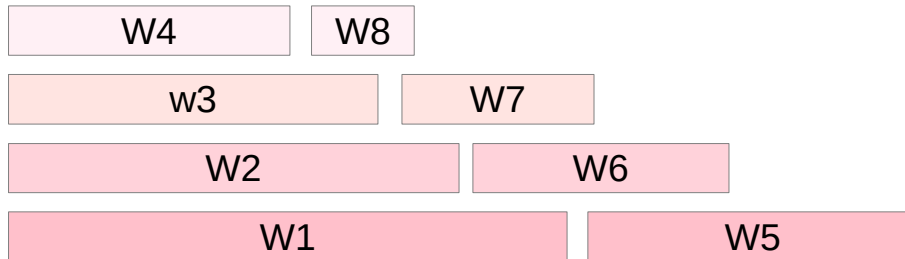
**iterations** are assigned  
to **threads** that are unoccupied.

when iterations take an unpredictable amount of time,  
so **load balancing** is needed.

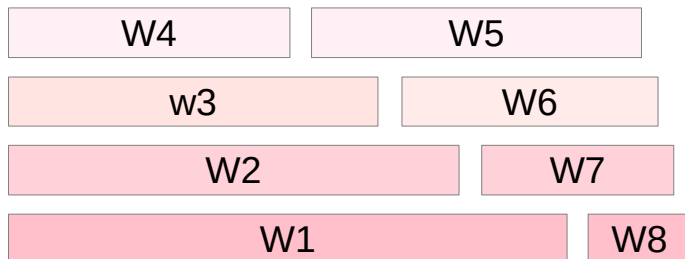
<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-loop.html>

# Loop Schedules (2)

## Static round robin scheduling



## Dynamic scheduling



<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-loop.html>

# Loop Schedules (3)

## Static

thr0	thr1	thr2	thr3
------	------	------	------

## Static, n

thr0	thr1	thr2	thr3	thr0	thr1	thr2	thr3	thr0	thr1	thr2
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

## Dynamic, n

thr0	thr1	thr2	thr3	thr1	thr0	thr3	thr2	thr2	thr0	thr1
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

## Guided

thr0	thr1	thr2	thr3	thr0	thr1	thr2	thr3	thr0	thr1
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-loop.html>

# Loop Schedules (3)

## Static

thr0	thr1	thr2	thr3
------	------	------	------

## Static, n

thr0	thr1	thr2	thr3	thr0	thr1	thr2	thr3	thr0	thr1	thr2
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

## Dynamic

thr0	thr1	thr2	thr3	thr1	thr0	thr2	thr1	thr3	thr2	thr1
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

## Guided

thr0	thr1	thr2	thr3	thr0	thr1	thr2	thr3	thr0	thr1
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-loop.html>



# Loop Schedules (4)

assume that each core gets assigned two (blocks of) iterations and these blocks take gradually less and less time.

thread 1 gets two fairly long blocks, whereas thread 4 gets two short blocks,

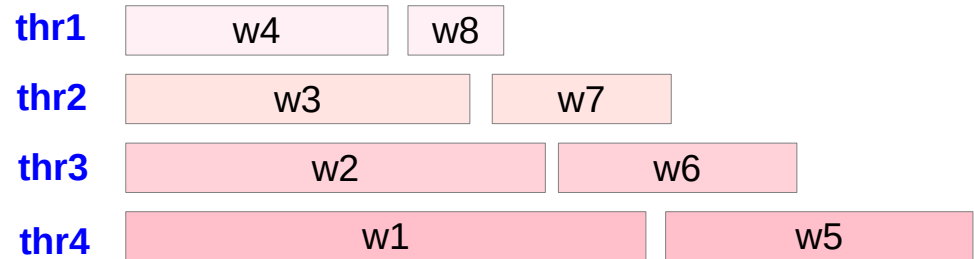
Thread 1 finishes much earlier.

**Imbalance** : unequal amounts of work

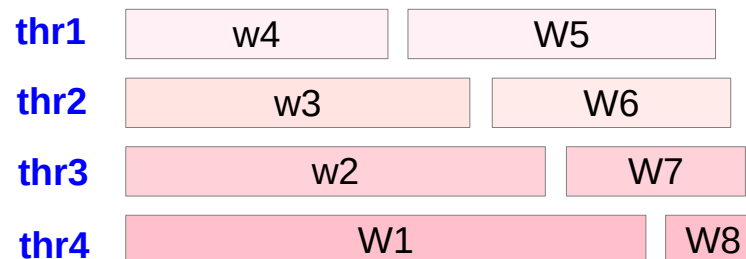
## load balancing

thread 4 gets block 5, since it finishes the first set of blocks early. The effect is a perfect

## Static round robin scheduling



## Dynamic scheduling



# Loop Schedule – Static (1)

The **default static schedule** is to assign one consecutive **block** of **iterations** to each **thread**.

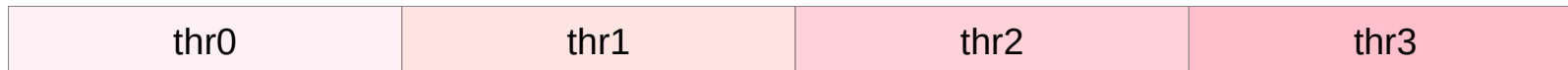
`#pragma omp for schedule(static)`

`#pragma omp for schedule(static, chunk)`

With **static scheduling**, the compiler will split up the loop iterations at compile time,

When the iterations take roughly the same amount of time, this is the most efficient at runtime.

## Static



<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-loop.html>

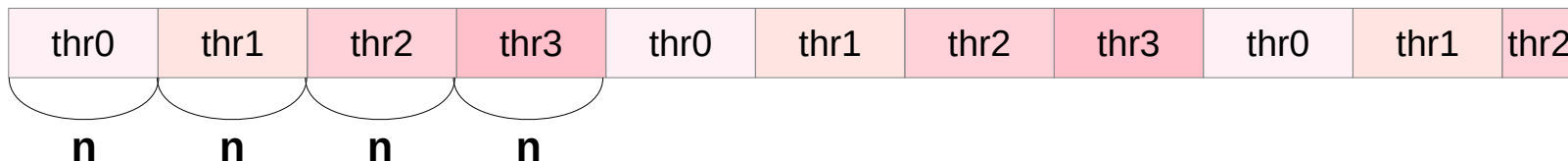
# Loop Schedule – Static (2)

`#pragma omp for schedule(static,chunk)`

If you want different sized blocks  
you can define a **chunk size** **chunk**

The choice of a **chunk size** is often  
a balance between the **low overhead**  
of having only a few chunks, (big chunks)  
versus the **load balancing effect**  
of having smaller chunks. (many chunks)

**Static, n**



<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-loop.html>

# Loop Schedule – Static (3)

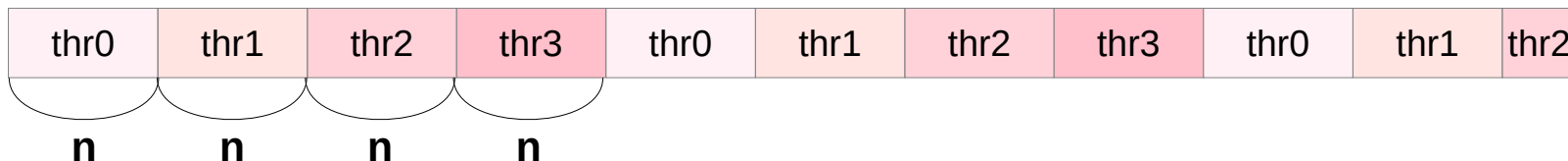
`#pragma omp for schedule(static,chunk)`

OpenMP divides the iterations  
into chunks of size **chunk-size**

distributes the chunks to **threads**  
in a **circular order**.

When no chunk-size is specified,  
OpenMP divides iterations into chunks  
that are approximately equal in size and  
distributes at most one chunk to each **thread**.

**Static, n**



<http://jakascorner.com/blog/2016/06/omp-for-scheduling.html>

# Loop Schedule – Static (4)

Static scheduling is used when you know that each thread will do the approximately same amount of work at the **compile time**.

the following code can be parallelized using OMP. (assume only 4 threads)

```
float A[100][100];
```

```
for(int i = 0; i < 100; i++)  
{  
    for(int j = 0; j < 100; j++)  
    {  
        A[i][j] = 1.0f;  
    }  
}
```

100 \* 100 iterations

10000 / 4 iterations / thread

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/15508128/using-omp-schedule-with-prAGMA-omp-for-parallel-scheduleruntime>

# Loop Schedule – Static (5)

```
float A[100][100];
```

```
#pragma omp for schedule(static)
```

```
for(int i = 0; i < 100; i++)
```

```
{
```

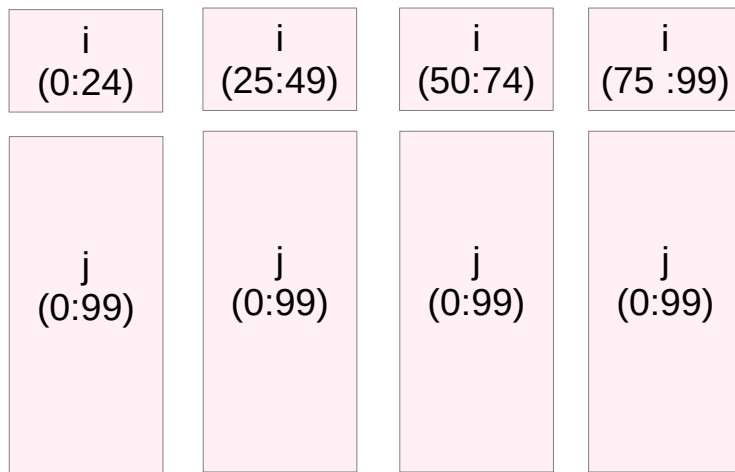
```
    for(int j = 0; j < 100; j++)
```

```
    {
```

```
        A[i][j] = 1.0f;
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```



to use the default **static scheduling**,  
place **pragma** on the outer for loop,

then each thread will do  
25% of the outer loop (i) work  
and equal amount of inner loop (j) work

Hence, the total amount of work done  
by each thread is same.

Hence, we could simply stick  
with the default static scheduling  
to give **optimal load balancing**.

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/15508128/using-omp-schedule-with-prAGMA-omp-for-parallel-scheduleruntime>

# Loop Schedule – Static (6)

Assume : a for loop with 64 iterations and 4 threads

## **schedule(static)**

OpenMP divides iterations into 4 chunks of size 16 and it distributes them to four threads.

64 iterations and 4 threads  $\rightarrow 64 / 4 = 16$

the 1<sup>st</sup> thread executes iterations 1, 2, 3, ..., 15 and 16.

the 2<sup>nd</sup> thread executes iterations 17, 18, 19, ..., 31, 32.

## **schedule(static, 4)** and **schedule(static, 8)**

OpenMP divides iterations into chunks of size 4 and 8, respectively.

- when all iterations have the same computational cost.

<http://jakascorner.com/blog/2016/06/omp-for-scheduling.html>

# Loop Schedule – Static (6)

`schedule(static, 4)`

0	1	2	3	16	17	18	19	32	33	34	35	48	49	50	51
4	5	6	7	20	21	22	23	36	37	38	39	52	53	54	55
8	9	10	11	24	25	26	27	40	41	42	43	56	57	58	59
12	13	14	15	28	29	30	31	44	45	46	47	60	61	62	63

`schedule(static, 8)`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63

`schedule(static)`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63

<http://jakascorner.com/blog/2016/06/omp-for-scheduling.html>



# Loop Schedule – Dynamic (1)

In **dynamic scheduling** OpenMP will put **blocks** of iterations in a **task queue**, (the **default chunk size** is **1**) and the **threads** take **one** of these tasks whenever they are **finished** with the previous.

**#pragma omp for schedule(dynamic[,chunk])**

While this schedule may give **good load balancing** if the iterations take very differing amounts of time to execute, it does carry **runtime overhead** for managing the **queue** of iteration tasks.

## Dynamic



arbitrary thread assignment

fixed chunk size except the last

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-loop.html>

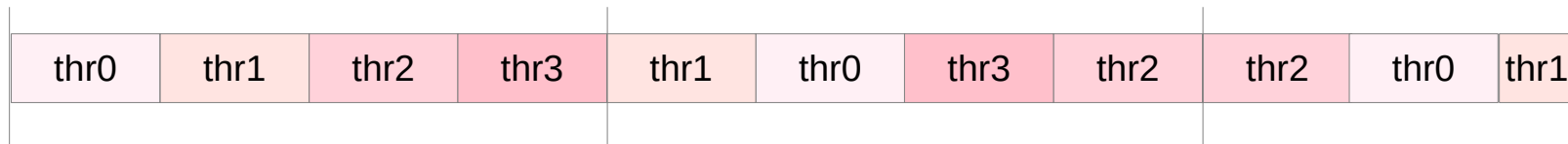
# Loop Schedule – Dynamic (2)

large **chunks** carry the least **overhead**,  
but smaller chunks are better for **load balancing**.

If you don't want to decide on a schedule in your code,  
you can specify the schedule will then **at runtime**  
be read from the **OMP\_SCHEDULE** environment variable.

You can even just leave it to the runtime library by specifying  
**omp\_set\_schedule**.

## Dynamic



arbitrary thread assignment

fixed chunk size except the last

<https://pages.tacc.utexas.edu/~eijkhout/pcse/html/omp-loop.html>

# Loop Schedule – Dynamic (3)

**for schedule(dynamic, chunk-size)**

the dynamic scheduling type

OpenMP divides the **iterations**  
into chunks of size **chunk-size**.

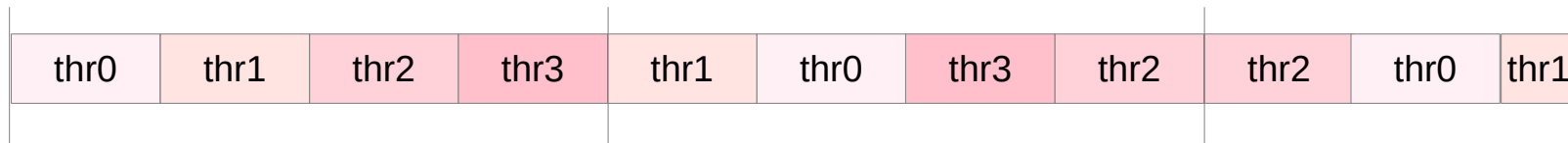
Each thread executes  
**a chunk** of **iterations** and  
then requests **another chunk**  
until there are no more chunks available.

There is no particular order  
in which the chunks are distributed  
to the **threads**.

The order changes each time  
when we execute the for loop.

If we do not specify **chunk-size**,  
it defaults to one.

## Dynamic



arbitrary thread assignment

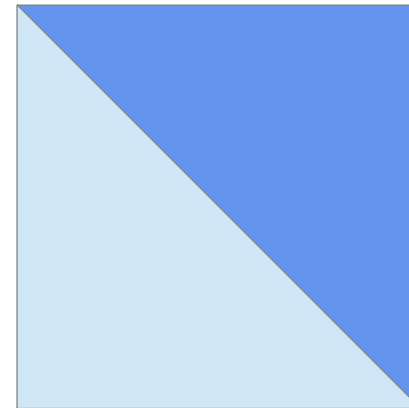
fixed chunk size except the last

<http://jakascorner.com/blog/2016/06/omp-for-scheduling.html>

# Loop Schedule – Dynamic (4)

**Dynamic scheduling** is used when you know that each thread will not do same amount of work by using **static scheduling**.

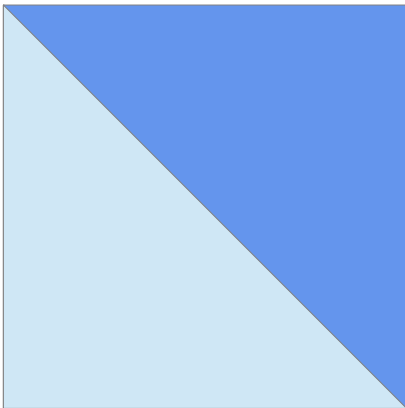
```
float A[100][100];  
  
for(int i = 0; i < 100; i++)  
{  
    for(int j = 0; j < i; j++)  
    {  
        A[i][j] = 1.0f;  
    }  
}
```



<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/15508128/using-omp-schedule-with-prAGMA-omp-for-parallel-scheduleruntime>

# Loop Schedule – Dynamic (5)

```
float A[100][100];  
  
for(int i = 0; i < 100; i++)  
{  
    for(int j = 0; j < i; j++)  
    {  
        A[i][j] = 1.0f;  
    }  
}
```



The inner loop variable *j* is dependent on the *i*.

the **default static scheduling**,

- the outer loop (*i*) work might be divided equally between the 4 threads,
  - but the inner loop (*j*) work will be large for some threads.
- 
- not equal amount of work
  - not optimal **load balancing**

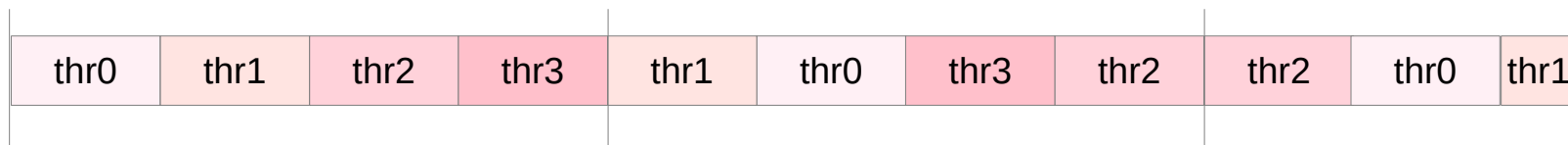
<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/15508128/using-omp-schedule-with-prAGMA-omp-for-parallel-scheduleruntime>

# Loop Schedule – Dynamic (6)

the dynamic scheduling is done **at the run time**  
can make sure **optimal load balance**.

can specify **the chunk\_size** for scheduling  
which depends on the **loop size**.

## Dynamic



arbitrary thread assignment

fixed chunk size except the last

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/15508128/using-omp-schedule-with-prAGMA-omp-for-parallel-scheduleruntime>

# Loop Schedule – Dynamic (7)

## **schedule(dynamic)** and **schedule(dynamic, 1)**

OpenMP determines similar scheduling.

the size of chunks is equal to **1** in both instances.

the distribution of chunks between the threads is arbitrary.

## **schedule(dynamic, 4)** and **schedule(dynamic, 8)**

OpenMP divides iterations into chunks of size **4** and **8**, respectively.

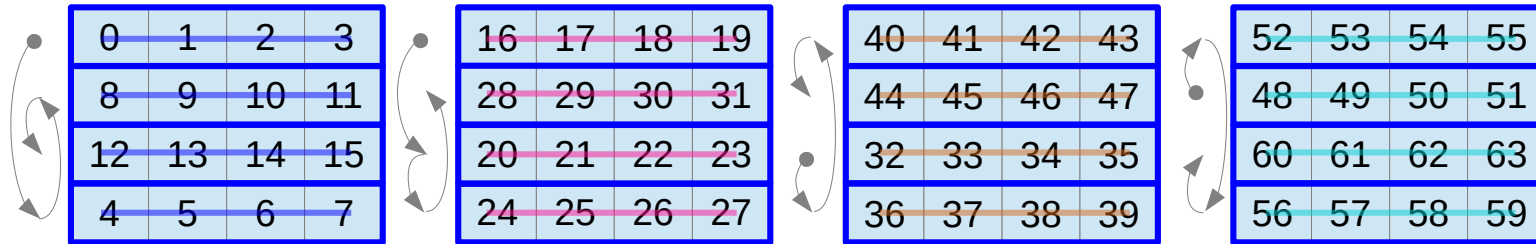
the distribution of chunks to the threads has no pattern (arbitrary)

- when the iterations require different computational costs.
- when the iterations are poorly balanced between each other.
- higher overhead than the static scheduling type  
because it dynamically distributes the iterations during the runtime.

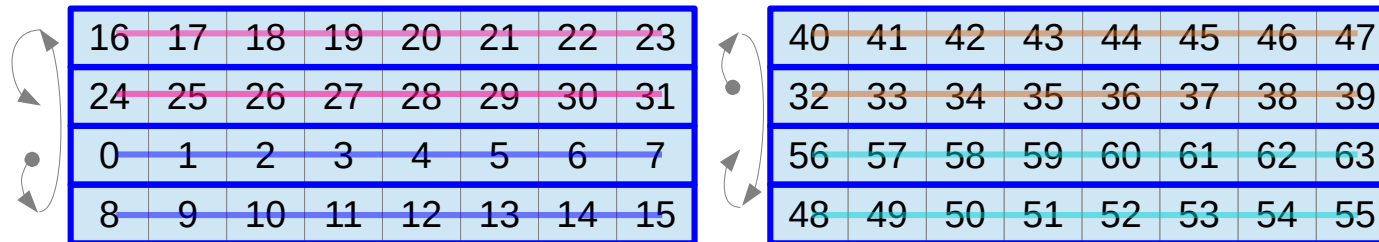
<http://jakascorner.com/blog/2016/06/omp-for-scheduling.html>

# Loop Schedule – Dynamic (6)

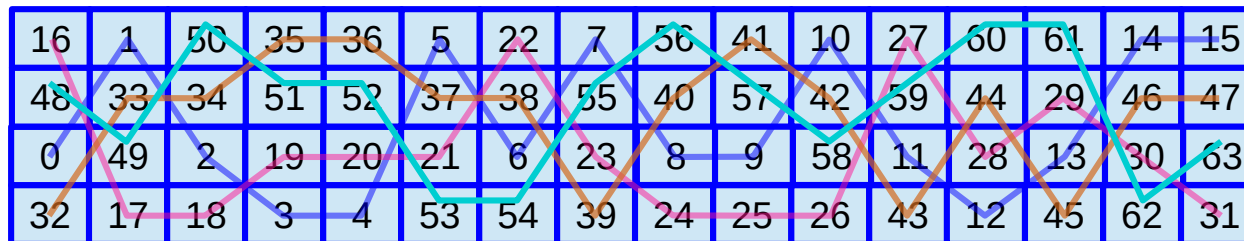
schedule(dynamic, 4)



schedule(dynamic, 8)



schedule(dynamic)



<http://jakascorner.com/blog/2016/06/omp-for-scheduling.html>



# Loop Schedule – Guided (1)

The **guided** scheduling type is similar to the **dynamic** scheduling type.

OpenMP again divides the iterations into **chunks**.

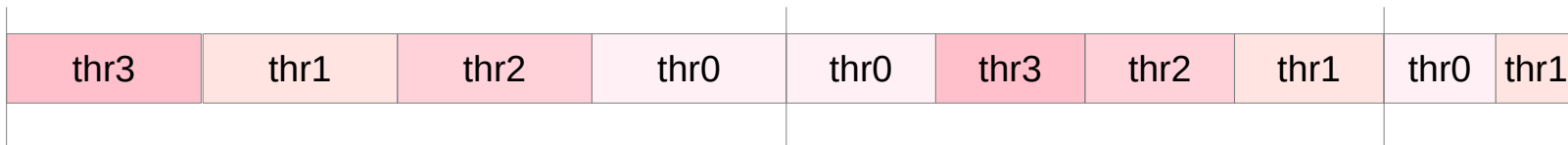
Each thread executes a **chunk** of iterations and then requests **another chunk** until there are no more chunks available.

The difference is in **the size of chunks**.

The size of a chunk is **proportional** to the **number of unassigned iterations** divided by the **number of the threads**.

Therefore **the size of the chunks** decreases as the execution goes on

## Guided



arbitrary thread assignment

decreasing chunk size

<http://jakascorner.com/blog/2016/06/omp-for-scheduling.html>

# Loop Schedule – Guided (2)

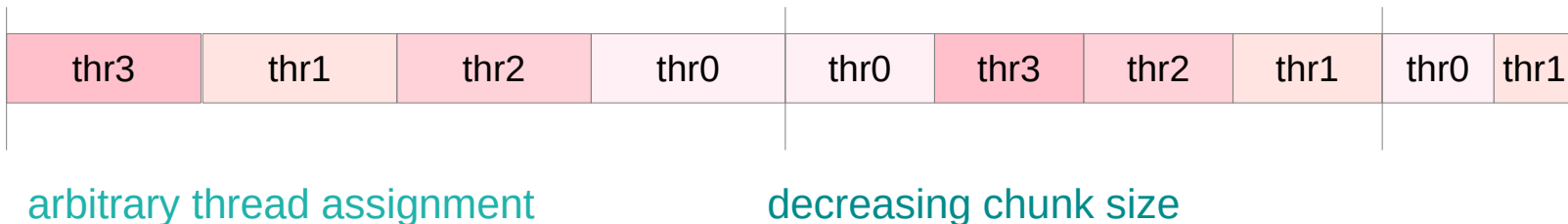
The **minimum size of a chunk**  
is set by '**chunk-size**'  
in the scheduling clause:

**for schedule(guided, chunk-size).**

the chunk which contains the last iterations  
may have smaller size than chunk-size.

If we do not specify **chunk-size**,  
it defaults to **one**.

## Guided



<http://jakascorner.com/blog/2016/06/omp-for-scheduling.html>

# Loop Schedule – Guided (3)

the **size** of the **chunks** is decreasing.

1<sup>st</sup> chunk has always 16 iterations.  $64 \text{ iterations} / 4 \text{ threads} \rightarrow 64 / 4 = 16$

2<sup>nd</sup> chunk has always 12 iterations.  $(64-16) \text{ iterations} / 4 \text{ threads} \rightarrow 48 / 4 = 12$

3<sup>rd</sup> chunk has always 9 iterations.  $(48-12) \text{ iterations} / 4 \text{ threads} \rightarrow 36 / 4 = 9$

the **minimum chunk size** is determined in the schedule clause.

The only exception is the **last chunk**.

Its size might be lower than the prescribed minimum size.

The guided scheduling type is appropriate  
when the iterations are poorly balanced between each other.

The initial chunks are larger, because they reduce overhead.

The smaller chunks fill the schedule towards the end of the computation  
and improve load balancing.

This scheduling type is especially appropriate  
when poor load balancing occurs toward the end of the computation.

<http://jakascorner.com/blog/2016/06/omp-for-scheduling.html>

# Loop Schedule – Guided (3)

schedule(guided)

64	$64 / 4 = 16$
(64-16)	$48 / 4 = 12$
(48-12)	$36 / 4 = 9$
(36-9)	$27 / 4 = 7$
(27-7)	$20 / 4 = 5$
(20-5)	$15 / 4 = 4$
(15-4)	$11 / 4 = 3$
(11-3)	$8 / 4 = 2$
(8-2)	$6 / 4 = 2$
(6-2)	$4 / 4 = 1$
(4-1)	$3 / 4 = 1$
(3-1)	$2 / 4 = 1$
(2-1)	$1 / 4 = 1$

schedule(guided, 4)

64	$64 / 4 = 16$
(64-16)	$48 / 4 = 12$
(48-12)	$36 / 4 = 9$
(36-9)	$27 / 4 = 7$
(27-7)	$20 / 4 = 5$
(20-5)	$15 / 4 = 4$
(15-4)	$11 / 4 = 3 < 4$
(11-4)	7      4
(7-4)	3      3
(3-3)	0

schedule(guided, 8)

64	$64 / 4 = 16$
(64-16)	$48 / 4 = 12$
(48-12)	$36 / 4 = 9$
(36-9)	$27 / 4 = 7 < 8$
(27-8)	19      8
(19-8)	11      8
(11-8)	3      3
(3-3)	0

unassigned iterations / threads

<http://jakascorner.com/blog/2016/06/omp-for-scheduling.html>

# Loop Schedule – Static (6)

schedule(static)

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63

schedule(guided)

64       $64 / 4 = 16$

(64-16)       $48 / 4 = 12$

(48-12)       $36 / 4 = 9$

(36-9)       $27 / 4 = 7$

(27-7)       $20 / 4 = 5$

(20-5)       $15 / 4 = 4$

(15-4)       $11 / 4 = 3$

(11-3)       $8 / 4 = 2$

(8-2)       $6 / 4 = 2$

(6-2)       $4 / 4 = 1$

(4-1)       $3 / 4 = 1$

(3-1)       $2 / 4 = 1$

(2-1)       $1 / 4 = 1$

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	44	45	46	47	48	58	59	63
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	49	50	51	52	60							
28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	53	54	55	61											
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	56	57	62														

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	63
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	53	54	55	60	
28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	49	50	51	52	56	57	61	
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	58	59	62		

<http://jakascorner.com/blog/2016/06/omp-for-scheduling.html>

# Loop Schedule – Static (6)

schedule(static)

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	44	45	46	47	48	61
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	49	50	51	52	62					
28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	53	54	55	56	63								
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	57	58	59	60											

schedule(guided, 4)

64             $64 / 4 = 16$   
 (64-16)     $48 / 4 = 12$   
 (48-12)     $36 / 4 = 9$   
 (36-9)      $27 / 4 = 7$   
 (27-7)      $20 / 4 = 5$   
 (20-5)      $15 / 4 = 4$   
 (15-4)     11             $11 / 4 = 2$  < 4  
 (11-4)     7             4  
 (7-4)      3             3  
 (3-3)      0

<http://jakascorner.com/blog/2016/06/omp-for-scheduling.html>

# Loop Schedule – Auto

---

The auto scheduling type delegates the decision of the scheduling to the **compiler** and/or **runtime** system.

<http://jakascorner.com/blog/2016/06/omp-for-scheduling.html>

# Loop Schedule – Runtime

The `schedule(runtime)` clause tells it to set the schedule using the environment variable.

The environment variable can be set to any other scheduling type.

It can be set by

```
setenv OMP_SCHEDULE "dynamic,5"
```

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/15508128/using-omp-schedule-with-pragma-omp-for-parallel-scheduleruntime>



# Loop Schedules – Runtime

The **runtime** scheduling type defers the decision about the scheduling until the **runtime**.

different ways of specifying the scheduling type in this case.

One option is with the environment variable **OMP\_SCHEDULE**

and the other option is with the function **omp\_set\_schedule**.

<http://jakascorner.com/blog/2016/06/omp-for-scheduling.html>

# Loop Schedules – Runtime

If the scheduling-type (in the schedule clause of the loop construct) is equal to runtime then OpenMP determines the scheduling by the internal control variable run-sched-var. We can set this variable by setting the environment variable OMP\_SCHEDULE to the desired scheduling type. For example, in bash-like terminals, we can do

```
$ export OMP_SCHEDULE=scheduling-type
```

Another way to specify run-sched-var is to set it with omp\_set\_schedule function.

```
...  
omp_set_schedule(scheduling-type);  
...
```

<http://jakascorner.com/blog/2016/06/omp-for-scheduling.html>

# Nested Parallelism (1)

```
void fun1()
{
    for (int i=0; i<80; i++)
        ...
}
```

the 2nd loop in **main**  
can only be distributed to 10 threads

80 loop iterations in **fun1**  
which will be called 10 times in **main** loop.

```
main()
{
    #pragma omp parallel
    {
        #pragma omp for
        for (int i=0; i<100; i++)
            ...

        #pragma omp for
        for (int i=0; i<10; i++)
            fun1();
    }
}
```

total 800 iterations in **fun1** and the **main** loop

This gives much more parallelism potential  
if parallelism can be added in both levels.

<https://software.intel.com/content/www/us/en/develop/articles/exploit-nested-parallelism-with-openmp-tasking-model.html>

# Nested Parallelism (2)

```
void fun1()
```

```
{  
    #pragma omp parallel for  
    for (int i=0; i<80; i++)  
        ...  
}
```

```
main
```

```
{  
    #Pragma omp parallel  
    {  
        #pragma omp for  
        for (int i=0; i<100; i++)  
            ...  
  
        #pragma omp for  
        for (int i=0; i<10; i++)  
            fun1();  
    }  
}
```

may either have insufficient threads for the 1st main loop  
as it has larger loop count, or

create exploded number of threads for the 2nd main loop  
when **OMP\_NESTED=TRUE**.

The simple solution is to split the parallel region in main and  
create separate ones for each loop  
with a distinct thread number specified.

<https://software.intel.com/content/www/us/en/develop/articles/exploit-nested-parallelism-with-openmp-tasking-model.html>

# Nested Parallelism (3)

```
void fun1()
{
    #pragma omp taskloop
    for (int l = 0; l < 80; l++)
        ...
}
```

don't have to worry about the thread number changes  
in 1st and 2nd main loops.

Even though you still have a small amount of (10) threads  
allocated for 2nd main loop,  
the rest available threads will be able  
to be distributed through omp **taskloop** in fun1.

```
main
{
    #pragma omp parallel
    {
        #pragma omp for
        for (int i=0; i < 100; i++)
            ...

        #pragma omp for
        for (int i=0; i < 10; i++)
            fun1();
    }
}
```

<https://software.intel.com/content/www/us/en/develop/articles/exploit-nested-parallelism-with-openmp-tasking-model.html>

# Nested Parallelism (4)

**nested parallel regions** is  
a way to distribute **tasks** by creating / forking more **threads**.

**parallel region** is the only construct  
determines **execution thread number**  
and controls **thread affinity**

Using **nested parallel regions** means  
each **thread** in **parent region**  
will yield multiple **threads** in enclosed regions,  
which in turn create a product of **thread number**.

<https://software.intel.com/content/www/us/en/develop/articles/exploit-nested-parallelism-with-openmp-tasking-model.html>

# Nested Parallelism (5)

**omp tasking** shows another way to explore parallelism by adding more **tasks**, instead of **threads**.

though the **thread number** is unchanged as specified at the entry of the **parallel region**, the increased **tasks** from the **nested tasking** constructs can be distributed and executed by any available/idle **threads** in the current team of the same parallel region.

This gives opportunities to fully use all threads' capability, and improve balance of workloads automatically.

<https://software.intel.com/content/www/us/en/develop/articles/exploit-nested-parallelism-with-openmp-tasking-model.html>

# Implicit task (1)

In addition to **explicit tasks** specified using the **task** directive, the OpenMP specification version **3.0** introduces the notion of **implicit tasks**.

An **implicit task** is a task generated

- by the **implicit parallel region**,
- when a **parallel construct** is encountered during execution.

The **code** for each **implicit task** is the code inside the **parallel construct**.

Each **implicit task** is

- assigned to a different **thread** in the **team** and is **tied**;
- always executed from beginning to end by the **thread** to which it is initially assigned.

<https://docs.oracle.com/cd/E19205-01/820-7883/6nj43o69j/index.html>



# Implicit task (2)

All **implicit tasks** generated  
when a **parallel construct** is encountered  
are guaranteed to be complete  
when the **master thread** exits the **implicit barrier**  
at the end of the **parallel region**.

all **explicit tasks** generated within a **parallel region**  
are guaranteed to be complete  
on exit from the next **implicit** or **explicit barrier**  
within the **parallel region**.

<https://docs.oracle.com/cd/E19205-01/820-7883/6nj43o69j/index.html>

# Implicit task (3)

When an **if clause** is present on a **task construct** and the value of the scalar-expression evaluates to **false**, **the thread** that encounters the task must immediately execute the task.

The **if clause** can be used to avoid the **overhead** of generating many **finely grained tasks** and placing them in the **conceptual pool**.

<https://docs.oracle.com/cd/E19205-01/820-7883/6nj43o69j/index.html>

# Implicit barrier

Implicit Barriers Several OpenMP\* constructs have implicit barriers

- parallel
- for
- single

Unnecessary barriers hurt performance

- Waiting threads accomplish no work!

Waiting threads accomplish no work!

Suppress implicit barriers, when safe, with the `nowait`

[https://www.intel.com/content/dam/www/public/apac/xa/en/pdfs/ssg/Programming\\_with\\_OpenMP-Linux.pdf](https://www.intel.com/content/dam/www/public/apac/xa/en/pdfs/ssg/Programming_with_OpenMP-Linux.pdf)

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## References

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- [2] M Harris, <http://beowulf.lcs.mit.edu/18.337-2008/lectslides/scan.pdf>